(a) the number of representations for inclusion of several castes in O.B.C. category, received by National Commission for Backward Classes since April, 1997 and how many of the castes have since been recommended for inclusion by the Commission, out of those representations; and

(b) whether Government have since accepted all the recommendations of the Commission, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The National Commission for Backward Classes has received representation for inclusion of 155 castes/communities (including sub-caste/ synonyms) in the Central List of OBCs since April 1997. Out of these, 126 castes/communities (including sub-caste/synonyms) have been recommended by the National Commission for Backward classes for inclusion in the Central List of OBCs.

(b) The Government have so far not disagreed with the recommendation of NCBC regarding inclusion in the OBC List. The Government considers the advices received from NCBC on a continuous basis.

The Government of India since April, 1997 have accepted and notified the inclusion/modification in the Central List of OBCs covered by 122 advices received from National Commission for Backward Classes. The representations for inclusion of castes/communities (including sub-caste/ synonyms) is received by the National Commision for Backward Classes continually and inclusion of castes/communities (including sub-caste/ synonyms) recommended by the Commission is processed by the Government in consultation with various related Ministries/Departments before a final decision is taken.

Inclusion of Jats in OBC List

*10. SHRIMATI JAYAPRADA NAHATA:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since agreed for inclusion of Jats and other castes in O.B.C. list and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether it is a fact that these castes specially Jats were not included in the recommendations made by the Mandal Commission for O.B.C. category; and

(c) if so, on what grounds these castes have been recognised as O.B.C. and whether Government have made any assessment about the adverse effect on the other castes which have already been included in O.B.C. list on the basis of the recommendations of Mandal Commission?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The Government of India have notified (vide Gazette Notification No. 241 dated 27th October, 1999) inclusion of Jats of Rajasthan (except Bharatpur and Dhaulpur Districts) along with inclusion of other castes in the Central List of OBC in respect of the States of Andhra Pradesh, UT of Chandigarh, NCT of Delhi, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal.

(b) and (c) Only 21 castes/communities covered by the Notification were included in the Mandal Commission report. The Jats of Rajasthan were not included in the List of OBCs recommended by the Mandal Commission. Inclusion of communities/castes in the Central OBC List has been done on the advice of National Commission for Backward classes who give recommendation after due enquiry. As per the provision of NCBC Act, the advice of the NCBC is ordinarily binding on the Government.

Obligation under WTO

*11. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI YADALAPATI VENKATA RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the country's obligation under the World Trade Organisation yet to be fulfilled; and

(b) the steps proposed for early legislation in respect thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) The WTO Agreements have provided specific transition periods for meeting certain obligations thereunder. These include phasing out of certain Trade Related Investment Measures by 1.1.2000,